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| APPLICATION NO.  | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|--|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 09/973,025   | 10/10/2001  | Geert Maertens       | 2752-56             | 7266             |
| 23117  | 7590        | 06/06/2005           | EXAMINER            |                  |
| NIXON & VANDERHYE, PC<br>901 NORTH GLEBE ROAD, 11TH FLOOR<br>ARLINGTON, VA 22203 |             |                      | LI, BAO Q           |                  |
|  |             |                      | ART UNIT            | PAPER NUMBER     |
|  |             |                      | 1648                |                  |

DATE MAILED: 06/06/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

|   |                        |                     |  |
|---|------------------------|---------------------|--|
| <b>Response to Rule 312 Communication</b> | <b>Application No.</b> | <b>Applicant(s)</b> |  |
|   | 09/973,025             | MAERTENS ET AL.     |  |
|   | <b>Examiner</b>        | <b>Art Unit</b>     |  |
|   | Bao Qun Li             | 1648                |  |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

1. ☒ The amendment filed on 01 March 2005 under 37 CFR 1.312 has been considered, and has been:

a) ☐ entered.

b) ☒ entered as directed to matters of form not affecting the scope of the invention.

c) ☐ disapproved because the amendment was filed after the payment of the issue fee.

Any amendment filed after the date the issue fee is paid must be accompanied by a petition under 37 CFR 1.313(c)(1) and the required fee to withdraw the application from issue.

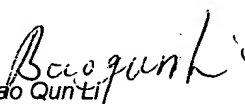
d) ☐ disapproved. See explanation below.


e) ☐ entered in part. See explanation below.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Bao Qun Li whose telephone number is 571-272-0904. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:00 am to 3:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James Housel can be reached on 571-272-0902. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

  
Bao Qun Li  
Art Unit 1648  
May 23, 2005

  
JAMES HOUSEL  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 1600

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